

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4 7 and 10 as indicated below.

Please add new claims 11-19 as indicated below.

This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A rice-derived promoter consisting of the following DNA (a) or (b):

(a) DNA that consists of the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 10; or

(b) DNA that hybridizes under stringent conditions with DNA consisting of a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to the DNA consisting of the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 10 and that expresses stress-inducible promoter activity.

2. (Original) The promoter according to claim 1, wherein the stress is dehydration stress, low temperature stress, or salt stress.

3. (Currently Amended) A recombinant vector comprising the promoter according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2.

4. (Currently Amended) The vector according to claim 3, wherein structural genes and/or regulatory genes for enhancing stress tolerance are contained so as to be functional under the control of the promoter according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2.

5. (Original) The vector according to claim 4, wherein the structural genes and/or regulatory genes for enhancing stress tolerance are selected from the group consisting of the P5CS gene, which is a key enzyme for proline synthesis, the AtGolS3 gene for galactinol synthesis, the Arabidopsis thaliana-derived DREB transcription factor gene, the rice-derived OsDREB transcription factor gene, and the NCED gene, which is an enzyme involved in the synthesis of ABA.

6. (Original) The vector according to claim 5, wherein the structural genes and/or regulatory genes for enhancing stress tolerance are the rice-derived OsDREB transcription factor genes.
7. (Currently Amended) A transgenic plant, which is obtained by introducing the vector according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 6~~ claim 3 into a host.
8. (Original) The transgenic plant according to claim 7, wherein the host is a plant.
9. (Original) The transgenic plant according to claim 8, wherein the host is a monocotyledonous plant.
10. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing stress tolerance of a plant by introducing the promoter according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ into the plant.
11. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the promoter according to claim 2.
12. (New) The vector according to claim 11, wherein structural genes and/or regulatory genes for enhancing stress tolerance are contained so as to be functional under the control of the promoter according to claim 2.
13. (New) A method for enhancing stress tolerance of a plant by introducing the promoter according to claim 2 into the plant.
14. (New) A transgenic plant, which is obtained by introducing the vector according to claim 4 into a host.
15. (New) The transgenic plant according to claim 14, wherein the host is a plant.
16. (New) A transgenic plant, which is obtained by introducing the vector according to claim 5 into a host.

17. (New) The transgenic plant according to claim 16, wherein the host is a plant.
18. (New) A transgenic plant, which is obtained by introducing the vector according to claim 6 into a host.
19. (New) The transgenic plant according to claim 18, wherein the host is a plant.